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NATIONAL STATES RIGHTS PARTY

The NSRP is largely a one-man project. Edward R. Fields is the guiding spirit of the Party and its authoritarian leader. Today its headquarters is located in Birmingham, Alabama, from which the party organ is issued and the activities of half a dozen "state units" directed. NSRP is both anti-Negro and anti-Semitic, but it has always considered Jews the principal enemy and the Negro civil rights movement merely an instrument of a Jewish conspiracy. Fields has never given membership figures but claims that NSRP is the third largest political party in the United States. That claim has been challenged by others.

In tracing the genesis of this organization, it is found that Fields had a considerable background of experience with hate groups before he founded the Party. In 1946, at the age of 14, while a student at Marist College, a prep school in Atlanta, Georgia, he joined the Columbians, a fascist stormtrooper group led by Emory Burke. (The Columbians, founded in post-war Georgia by Ira Jett and Emory Burke, was a para-military combat group that actively plotted a take-over of the State of Georgia. Following a series of disturbances, Burke and the other officers were seized, along with considerable stores of arms, ammunition, and explosives -- and a list of public officials and private citizens to be exterminated

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Source: Para-Military Organizations in California, California Department of Justice, Sacramento, California, 1965. Reproduced by the Library of Congress, Legislative Reference Service, May 21, 1965.

the NSRP joined the "Northern European Ring," an international fascist group of associations, and was welcomed by the British National Party into its "circle of friendship and cooperation."

Turning back to Fields' long-time associate, Jesse B. Stoner, it is interesting to note that he had a similar background in hate groups. In 1942, at the age of 18, he was a "Kleagle" (organizer) of the Ku Klux Klan group in Chattanooga. He later was a member of the Columbians. In 1946 he announced that he was founding a new party which would out-Hitler Hitler, whom he termed a moderate. The Stoner Anti-Jewish Party, which proposed to make Judaism a crime punishable by death, received 541 out of 30,000 votes cast in 1948 when Stoner ran for Congress. In 1952, as law students in Atlanta, Stoner joined with Fields in changing the name of the Stoner Anti-Jewish Party to the Christian Anti-Jewish Party. Later, following the organization of the new NSRP, Stoner became its general Counsel. In 1959, he became Imperial Wizard of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan which opened its official four-state headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, during the summer of that year. Stoner continues to publish a small Klan bulletin in Atlanta, as well as serving actively in NSRP.

Originally, the headquarters of NSRP was in Jeffersonville, Indiana, at the home of a member. In 1960 headquarters was moved

America and the White Race and the preservation of the pure blood of our forefathers, so that all future generations which come after us will be born as White children with a creative intelligence that will strengthen our civilized influence over the world for the good of all mankind....."

As Fields has frequently written in the Party organ, "The Thunderbolt," the Party's objectives would be accomplished by mass deportations of members and descendants of "mongrel" races; and with reference to those who declined to leave: "Later on the country would have to be purified." Those wholesale deportations would be accompanied by confiscation of the property of the deportees.

Fiftieth issue anniversary of The Thunderbolt of April 1963: "Our Party, upon being elected to national power, will deport the Jews to Madagascar and confiscate their ill-gotten wealth for the benefit of the American people. When the Jews are gone, we Americans will own rich America. We want our money back. The Jews have our money and we want it back. When we get it back, we will enjoy a genuine and lasting prosperity, with plenty for all....."

As a political party, NSRP files quarterly financial reports with the Clerk of the House of Representatives. In 1961 its reported income totalled \$15,555 with expenditures of \$14,209. The 1963 report showed an increase -- \$44,201 income, offset by expenditures of \$42,828. Fields' salary was shown to have risen from \$300 per month in 1961 to \$550 per month in 1963. The only other salaried position listed was that of associate editor.

On October 12, 1958, a Jewish synagogue was dynamited in Atlanta, Georgia. Five men were subsequently arrested for the crime, and all five were identified as members of the NSRP. Those charged were tried and acquitted.

In the fall of 1962 seven NSRP members traveled to Oxford, Mississippi, to join the protest against James Meredith's enrollment in the University. Some firearms were confiscated from the automobile belonging to one of the men.

In 1963 during the period of Birmingham's integration of schools and lunch counters, the NSRP was much in the forefront. NSRP members staged demonstrations, held rallies, and distributed thousands of leaflets and "Bulletins." Fields and other NSRP leaders addressed rallies and participated in demonstrations.

On September 15, 1963, a Baptist Church in Birmingham was dynamited and four children killed. Among the suspects arrested in connection with the bombing were a NSRP member, a Klansman, and another individual. All were charged with illegal possession of dynamite, fined, and sentenced to six months prison terms.

In September 1963, seven members of NSRP, including Fields and Stoner, were indicted by a Federal grand jury on a charge of conspiring to interfere with the Federal Court's desegregation order. In February 1964, the cases were dismissed.

On July 23, 1964, in St. Augustine, Florida, warrants were issued for the arrest of four men accused of burning a cross on private property. Those named in the warrant were two Klan leaders, NSRP member Conrad Lynch, and NSRP attorney J. B. Stoner.

The NSRP has been intensely active in its opposition to the desegregation issue, and has been a storm center in the Negro civil rights movement. In the summer and fall of 1963, it played a particularly active role in agitational action in northern

The August 1962 issue of the Thunderbolt announced the appointment of James P. Thornton as the California State Organizer for the NSRP. Thornton made a slow start by establishing a headquarters at his home in Garden Grove, California, and by distributing the Party literature at meetings of other organizations and holding small organizational meetings. From his contacts with the local American Nazi group, Robert Lee Lewton was influenced to leave the Nazi Party and join with Thornton in NSRP by becoming editor of the Party's local publication called "The Attack."

In early 1963 Thornton was named as State Director, Robert Lewton as Deputy Director, and the aforementioned Conrad Lynch as State Organizer. This shifting was apparently made in an effort to vitalize the movement in this State. Robert Barber was made District Director of Kern County; and Newman Britton was named to two posts, that of District Director of San Bernardino and of Security Division Chief of Staff. The Britton brothers operated a plastering contractors business in San Bernardino, and they reportedly employed Lynch in some capacity.

Thereafter, organizational meetings were held in various localities in Southern California. Those were spirited meetings at which Conrad Lynch delivered impassioned diatribes against the Jews and Negroes, and his vehement outpourings were matched by those of Neuman Britton. A contrast was afforded by the low-keyed

That incident marked the end of the organizational drive, and when Lynch was removed from his post as State Organizer by Fields because of his emotional extremism, and when Thornton moved to Birmingham to work at Party headquarters, the NSRP movement in this State came to a halt. Thornton became Associate Editor of The Thunderbolt until he quarreled with Fields, and thereafter he joined with other NSRP apostates in forming a new and rival organization called the American States Rights Party. The Chairman was named as James R. McDaniel, Sr., and the Information Director, Jerry Dutton, both ex-members of NSRP. The house organ of ASRP is entitled "The White American," and is an expensive, two-color tabloid published in Birmingham, Ala. The ASRP is also semi-military in its makeup. Its officers are listed according to military rank, and it too has a party uniform, white shirt with black embroidered shoulder tabs and black collar tabs, and black trousers. Thornton visited California in November 1964, seeking to enlist a State organizer, but from the silence following his visit it can be concluded that his quest was unproductive.

The NSRP has just recently taken a step aimed at another organizational attempt in California. The Party organ announced the appointment of Terrel R. Eddy to the post of State Chairman of the California Division of NSRP. Following that announcement, Eddy sent out a mimeographed letter bearing the date of January

COMMENTARY

Fields, the man who heads this organization, and his close associate, Stoner, both served what might be termed apprenticeships in their chosen field of activity through their memberships in the Columbians. The Columbians, it should be remembered, were not just another hate group of agitators, they were a band of insurrectionists engaged in a conspiracy to violently overthrow the government of the State of Georgia. It is of no small significance that the symbol of the NSRP was borrowed directly from the Columbians. Of more compelling significance is the fact that a close relationship was maintained with Emory Burke, the Columbians' leader, until it was ended, at least temporarily, by a quarrel in January 1963.

After serving three years in prison, Burke was released in 1949, and some time thereafter he worked for Gerald L. K. Smith's Christian Nationalist Crusade. In 1958, he worked for Admiral Crommelin in the Georgia gubernatorial campaign of that year. In that year also he was named as "Advisor" to NSRP. In August, 1962, he was appointed to the post of President of the "Patriotic National Center and School of Racial Studies and Leadership Training." That was a NSRP school located in Montgomery, Ala., which opened the following month to be a headquarters for the youth sections of all NSRP units, housed in a building containing

